

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing an extension to a default set of resource functions in an enterprise application server, said application server having a default Universal
5 Resource Locator (URL) stream handler factory class, said method comprising the steps of:

providing one or more extension URL providers on an application server, said extension URL providers each having a specified name, description, supported protocol and stream handler class name, and classpath;
10 binding a reference to one or more extension URL objects into a global namespace on said application server;

registering said extension URL providers to be used by an application program in a table of parameter sets having a protocol identifier and a stream handler class identifier;
15 overriding said default URL stream handler to enable an extension URL stream handler; and

binding one or more extension URL objects into an application server namespace such that said registered extension URL providers and extension URL objects are available to and for use by an application program through an application
20 server naming service.
2. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

executing a computer instruction by an application program to lookup a resource object by a resource name via an application server naming service; and retrieving a bound and registered extension URL object according to said resource name.

5 3. The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of providing one or more extension URL providers includes specifying a classpath as a location of said extension URL provider's jar file on the application server.

4. The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of overriding said default URL stream handler is performed by executing a Java function to set the application
10 server's URL Stream Handler Factory to said extension URL stream handler.

5. A computer readable medium encoded with software for providing an extension to a default set of resource functions in an enterprise application server, said application server having a default Universal Resource Locator (URL) stream handler factory class, said software when executed by an application server to perform the
15 following steps:

provide one or more extension URL providers on an application server, said extension URL providers each having a specified name, description, supported protocol and stream handler class name, and classpath;

bind a reference to one or more extension URL objects into a global
20 namespace on said application server;

register said extension URL providers to be used by an application program in a table of parameter sets having a protocol identifier and a stream handler class identifier;

5 override said default URL stream handler to enable an extension URL stream handler; and

bind one or more extension URL objects into an application server namespace such that said registered extension URL providers and extension URL objects are available to and for use by an application program through an application server naming service.

10 6. The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 5 further comprising software for performing the steps of:

executing a computer instruction by an application program to lookup a resource object by a resource name via an application server naming service; and

15 retrieving a bound and registered extension URL object according to said resource name.

7. The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 5 wherein said software for providing one or more extension URL providers includes software for specifying a classpath as a location of said extension URL provider's jar file on the application server.

20 8. The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 5 wherein said software for overriding said default URL stream handler is comprises software for executing a

Java function to set the application server's URL Stream Handler Factory to said extension URL stream handler.

9. An extensible Universal Resource Locator (URL) resource system for an enterprise application server, said enterprise application server having a default set of resource functions in an enterprise application server and a default Universal Resource Locator (URL) stream handler factory class, said extensible URL resource system comprising:
- one or more extension URL providers on an application server, said extension URL providers each having a specified name, description, supported protocol and stream handler class name, and classpath;
 - a registry of said URL providers comprising a table having a parameter set for each URL provider, said parameter set comprising a protocol identifier and a stream handler class identifier;
 - a default URL stream handler factory overrider adapted to replace said default URL stream handler factory with a extension URL stream handler factory; and
 - one or more bound references for of one or more URL objects into an application server namespace such that said registered URL providers and URL objects are available to an application program via an application server naming service.
10. The extensible Universal Resource Locator (URL) resource system as set forth in Claim 9 further comprising:

a lookup facility for looking up a resource object by a resource name for use by an application program; and

a URL object retriever adapted to retrieve a bound and registered URL object according to said looked-up resource name.

5 11. The extensible Universal Resource Locator (URL) resource system as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said extension URL providers include a classpath specifying a location of said extension URL provider's jar file on the application server.

12. The extensible Universal Resource Locator (URL) resource system as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said default URL stream handler overrider comprises a Java
10 function to set the application server's URL Stream Handler Factory to said extension URL stream handler.